



OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

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MVC Men's Track Athlete of the Week

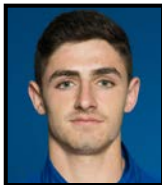
Jaylan McConico, So., Illinois State (Bolingbrook, Ill.)

On the final day of the Sun Angel Classic, hosted by Arizona State, McConico shattered ISU's 33-year-old 110-meter hurdles record, posting a personal-best time of 13.81 to finish third in his 2018 outdoor debut. McConico's mark, which currently ranks 14th in the nation, sixth in the NCAA West region, and first in the Valley, surpasses Don Burrell's previous school record of 13.85 that has stood since 1985. A 2018 NCAA Indoor Second-Team All-American in the 60-meter hurdles, McConico now holds both the indoor 60-meter hurdles and outdoor 110-meter hurdles school records in only his second year as a Redbird.

Upcoming Schedule/Recent Results

Friday, April 6 - Saturday, April 7

Kentucky Wesleyan Invitational
UE - W: 4th/10; M: 3rd/9
Sun Angel Classic (ILS) NTS
Gibson Invitational
BU - W: 5th/6; M: 5th/5
INS - W: 1st; M: 2nd
UNI - W: 3rd; M: 1st
Valpo - W: 6th; M: 4th
Benedictine Duals
LUC - W: 1st/17; M: 1st/18
Hilltopper Relays (SIU) NTS



MVC Men's Field Athlete of the Week

Jaime Murtagh, Sr., Indiana State (Ashbourne, Ireland)

Jaime Murtagh was feeling good in the men's high jump at the Gibson Invite for Indiana State, as he put on an impressive performance that resulted in the first win of the day. Murtagh ended up clearing a height of 2.18m (7-01.75), which is fourth in school history and ninth all-time in outdoor history. He now leads the conference, is eighth in the NCAA East Region and 12th in the nation.

Upcoming Schedule/Recent Results

Friday, April 13

Jim Duncan Invitational (DU)
Austin Peay Invitational (UE)
Tiger Track Classic (INS)
John McDonnell Invitational (MSU)
Tennessee Relays (SIU)

Saturday, April 14

Musco Twilight (BU/LUC/UNI)
Jim Duncan Invitational (DU)
Austin Peay Invitational (UE)
Redbird Invite (ILS/Valpo)
Tiger Track Classic (INS)
John McDonnell Invitational (MSU)
Tennessee Relays (SIU)



MVC Women's Track Athlete of the Week

Patrycja Dziekonska, Sr., Indiana State (West Windsor, N.J.)

Patrycja Dziekonska was the top finisher for the Sycamore women at the Gibson Invite, taking second overall in the 100-meter hurdles with a new wind-legal personal-best time of 13.79. Dziekonska now leads the MVC and sits at 48th in the NCAA East Region.



MVC Women's Field Athlete of the Week

Anna Bentley, Sr., UNI (Durant, Iowa)

Anna Bentley earned a mark of 130-05 at the Gibson Invitational in Terre Haute, Indiana over the weekend to kick off the outdoor season with a win in the javelin. The win for Bentley was her first collegiate victory at UNI. Bentley's mark ranks second overall in the MVC this season.



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► Noteworthy

In addition to the league's Track & Field Athlete of the Week selections, several other notable performances are recognized, and they include:

MEN'S TRACK

Alec Hartman, Bradley
Redshirt freshman Alec Hartman established a new meet record at Indiana State's Gibson Invitational on Saturday, winning 800m in 1:51.23. The rookie's time is the second-best in school history and just 23 hundredths shy of the program's 26-year record, while also ranking as the best in the Valley this season and 43rd in the West Region.

Daley Carter, Indiana State
In the 110-meter hurdles, Carter claimed the Gibson Invitational title, crossing the line at 14.21 for the second consecutive week which is currently second in the Missouri Valley Conference and is 36th in the East Region.

Tyler Elmore, Loyola
Loyola sophomore Tyler Elmore picked up three event titles on Saturday at the Benedictine Invitational in Lisle, Ill. He rolled to a first-place finish in the 100m dash, crossing in 11.07. The Bollingbrook, Ill. native also ran on the Maroon & Gold's victorious 4x100m (42.50) and 4x400m (3:24.44) relay teams. Elmore currently ranks 12th (10.90) on the MVC leaderboard in the 100m dash.

Jacob Smith, UNI
Jacob Smith earned three wins over the weekend, after taking the 400 hurdles, 4x100 and 4x400 relays at the Gibson Invitational in Terre Haute, Indiana to kick off the outdoor season. Smith's 51.84 ranks first in the MVC and 34th overall in the country. Smith's 41.10 in the 4x100 and 3:15.10 in the 4x400 rank fourth and third in the conference.

MEN'S FIELD

Ryan Ashenbremer, Illinois State
At last weekend's Sun Angel Classic, hosted by Arizona State, Ashenbremer cleared 5.00m (16-04.75) to finish fourth in the pole vault among 28 competitors. Not only does the height tie his outdoor personal-best, but it seeds him 34th in the NCAA West region and first in the Valley. With the mark, Ashenbremer also ranks fifth all-time in Illinois State history.

Thomas Yezek, UNI
Thomas Yezek won the discus throw with a mark of 171-09 to take first at the Gibson Invitational in Terre Haute, Indiana to open the outdoor season. The win for Yezek was his first collegiate victory at UNI. Yezek's throw over the weekend ranks first in the MVC and 79th overall in the nation.

Dylan Antonides, Valparaiso
Antonides won the men's javelin throw on the first day of the Gibson Invitational with a heave of 177 feet, 1 inch. That was over 23 feet farther than second place. His effort is also the best in the conference by over ten feet.

WOMEN'S TRACK

Niamh Markham, Bradley
For the third time in as many meets during the outdoor season, junior Niamh Markham recorded one of the top times in program history. On Saturday at Indiana State's Gibson Invitational, Markham won the 800m race in 2:12.45 -- the seventh-best time in BU history, while ranking third in the Valley this season.

D'Jenne Egharevba, Illinois State
At last weekend's Sun Angel Classic, hosted by Arizona State, Egharevba captured a pair of top-10 performances in the premiere sections of the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes. In the 100-meter, Egharevba clocked in at 11.85 to place eighth. Her previous 100-meter mark of 11.67 that she captured at Vanderbilt's Black & Gold Invitational on March 23 currently ranks first in the MVC and 42nd in the NCAA West region. In her outdoor 200-meter debut, Egharevba crossed the finish line in 24.00 to finish tenth. Her time is good for second in the Valley so far this season.

Denee' Lawrence, Loyola
Loyola sophomore Denee' Lawrence earned a pair of victories this past Saturday at the Benedictine Invitational in Lisle, Ill. Out of Ramstein, Germany, Lawrence cruised to a win in the 100m dash, where she clocked in at 12.63, before helping Loyola's 4x100m relay to a first-place finish in 47.91. Lawrence also notched a third-place finish in the 200m dash, where she posted an outdoor season-best time of 26.04.

Maddie Bell, UNI
Maddie Bell won two events to kick off the outdoor season at the Gibson Invitational in Terre Haute, Indiana, winning the 100 and 200-meter races to kick off the outdoor season. Bell's time of 24.46 in the 200-meter ranks third in the MVC, while her time of 12.10 in the 100-meter ranks ninth overall.

Bri'Anna Branch, Southern Illinois
Branch won the 100m dash and took third in the 200m dash at the Hilltopper Relays this past weekend. The Chicago, Ill. native won the 100m dash with a personal-best time of 11.85. It is the second-best time in the Missouri Valley Conference this season and the 10th-best time in school history. She also took third in the 200m dash Friday with a season-best time of 24.65.

WOMEN'S FIELD

Kameesha Smith, Illinois State
At last weekend's Sun Angel Classic, hosted by Arizona State, Smith posted solid performances in the long jump and high jump. In the long jump, Smith leaped an outdoor personal-best 5.79m (19-00.00) to place seventh. Her mark currently ranks sixth in the Valley. In the high jump, Smith cleared 1.70m (5-07.00) to finish ninth. Her previous height of 1.71m (5-07.25) that she posted at Vanderbilt's Black & Gold Invitational on March 23 sits her atop the Valley and ranks 42nd in the NCAA West region.

Erin Reese, Indiana State
Erin Reese continued her strong season by breaking the Gibson Invite hammer throw meet record with a throw of 61.18m (200-09), overtaking Kylee Dobbeleare of Central Michigan from 2016. Reese's mark of 62.34m (204-06) from Ole Miss is still first in the Valley, fifth in the NCAA East Region and 15th in the country. Reese also won the discus with a throw of 50.49m (165-08), but her mark of 53.98m (177-01) still leads the conference, is eighth in the East and 21st in the country. She also finished second in the shot put with a mark of 14.02m (46-00.00), which is sixth in the MVC.

Mackenzie Arnold, Loyola
Loyola sophomore Mackenzie Arnold picked up a victory in the long jump last Saturday at the Benedictine Invitational in Lisle, Ill. The Yuba City, Calif. native used a top leap of 17-06.00 (5.33m) to edge out teammate Kiera Washpun for the top spot on the final leaderboard. That mark moves Arnold up to seventh all-time at Loyola in the event and currently ranks 16th on the Missouri Valley Conference long jump leaderboard.

Carli Sowonik, Valparaiso
Sowonik won the women's pole vault on the second day of the Gibson Invitational with an effort of 11 feet, 5 3/4 inches, 5 inches higher than the next competitor. That height also now puts her third-best in Valpo history as only a freshman.

► Athletes of the Week

Men's Track

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
M27	Jack Anstey	Illinois State
A3	Jack Anstey	Illinois State
A10	Jaylan McConico	Illinois State

Men's Field

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
M27	Jared Kern	Southern Illinois
A3	Ricky Hurley	Southern Illinois
A10	Jaime Murtagh	Indiana State

Women's Track

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
M27	Jordyn Capra	Missouri State
A3	Taylor Austin	Indiana State
A10	Patrycja Dziekonska	Indiana State

Women's Field

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
M27	Erin Reese	Indiana State
A3	Erin Reese	Indiana State
A10	Anna Bentley	Northern Iowa

MVC Track & Field Athletes of the Week are selected each week during the Outdoor Track & Field season. The athletes are announced on Tuesday afternoon and appear in a weekly press release. Nominees are provided by each school's sports information contact and voted on by a panel appointed by the league office.

► Scholar-Athlete of the Week

DATE	NAME	SCHOOL
A4	Jack Anstey	Illinois State

To qualify for Missouri Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Week laurels, student-athletes must carry a cumulative grade-point average of 3.20, completed at least one academic year at a Valley institution and must be at least a sophomore in academic standing.

► Championship Information



May 11-13, 2018
Terre Haute, Ind.
Hosted by Indiana State